

# Fresh WinXP starts up extremely slow

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  - *Date:* Mon, 9 May 2005 07:24:06 -0700
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Greetings,

Over the past couple of days, we built a small private network for a customer here that needs Windows XP installed on all machines. The configuration for these machines is the same for each, and can be found at the bottom of this document. For testing purposes, I installed Windows 2000 on them first. Everything ran fine.

Afterwards, I launched the Windows XP installation, formatted the drive and on it went with installing. After the installation, starting up the computer literally takes 10 minutes. Finally having started, the dialog appears "Windows will now adjust your resolution", however, the background is entirely black. If you reboot 5 times, you might just be lucky enough to see the actual desktop. If that happens, performing any action takes way too long – it took me 5 minutes to enter the device manager.

This is obviously a huge problem, and it occurs on every single machine. Since Windows 2000 worked fine, I don't think it's a hardware problem. All Windows XP cds have been purchased and are brand new licences. My personal guess was Windows XP messes something up while formatting the harddisk, but after repartitioning using FDisk, the same problem existed. I used 2 different installation CD's and removed the computers from the network prior to installing. I also tried removing all PCI cards and switching the flatcables. If anyone has some other advice, I'd really appreciate it, I'm running out of ideas here. I have several spare hardware components, but since every installation takes a good 40 minutes, I'd like some input before I randomly start replacing things.

Thanks in advance :),

CJ (Bluenet)

Computer specifications:

Asus P4U800-X mainboard

Intel P4 3.0 Ghz Processor

512 MB DDR-SD Ram (Dane)

Asus Geforce FX 5200

40GB Maxtor harddisk (to be partitioned with a 5 GB primary partition for

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Windows)  
2x 3Com Network card  
1x Multi I/O card (1 COM port)  
1x Sweex Multi I/O card (2 COM ports)

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    - ◆ **Re: Fresh WinXP starts up extremely slow**  
◇ From: Jorg Duijvestijn
    - ◆ **RE: Fresh WinXP starts up extremely slow**  
◇ From: aeromach
  
  - Prev by Date: **Re: Outlook Express Issues on Win XP PProfessional**
  - Next by Date: **Re: Firefox – new problems**
  - Previous by thread: **upgrade from win2k pro to winxp pro**
  - Next by thread: **RE: Fresh WinXP starts up extremely slow**
  - Index(es):
    - ◆ **Date**
    - ◆ **Thread**